

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 3, 5 and 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Independent claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 10 and 11 have been amended to incorporate the features of allowable claim 3, and claim 3 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Dependent claims 5 and 8 have been amended to be consistent with the amended independent claims 4 and 2, respectively. Claim 9 has also been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Therefore, allowance of claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 10 and 11 and all claims dependent therefrom is considered to be warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a direct communication, the Examiner is requested to e-mail the undersigned at the address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/James Edward Ledbetter/

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JEL/DEA/att

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